Quarters for policemen.

* 257 Q.—SRI K. KRISHNA RAO: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that police constables who are not married are not allowed to occupy Government police lines quarters; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that police constables who are not provided free quarters in police lines are not paid house-rent allowance, unless they produce rent receipt from the owners of the houses they take for rent?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative, but where accommodation is limited preference is given to married persons.

" (*b*) The answer is in the negative. The Government have directed that house rent in lieu of rent-free quarters sanctioned to head constables and constables in the mufassal should be drawn in the pay bills of the men concerned as house-rent allowance and paid to them. To guard against incorrect drawal of house-rent allowance, and to ensure regular payment of rent to house-owners, it has also been ordered that the District Superintendents of Police should verify the fact of actual payment of rent by asking the recipients to produce before them rent receipts at least once in two months."

SRI K. KRISHNA RAO:—" Are the Government aware of the fact, Sir, that no house-owner nowadays is prepared to give a receipt for the exact amount that he actually receives for fear of the tax being enhanced? " 10-40 a.m.

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" This is not in Madras. These are mufassal rules."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—" Is it to be taken, Sir, that those who have their own homes will not be given house-rent allowance? If it is to be taken so, may I know whether such a rule is being adopted in the cases of all persons from the Hon. Ministers down to police constables? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—" Each class of public servants is regulated by separate rules.

" Here is a case where a certain house-rent allowance was ordered for constables. It was found insufficient and, therefore, where they had to pay a higher rent, with the sanction of the local district officials, they were authorized by a decentralization order that it may be drawn on the pay bills. The only question is why the rent receipt is asked for. It is asked for to ensure correctness."

SRI Y. MANJAYA SHETTY:—" As the quarters built for police constables are very small providing accommodation only for husband and wife, will the Government consider the question of constructing bigger quarters for those who are having bigger families? "

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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I have already explained the position with regard to buildings."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI:—"My question was whether the police constables are being paid house-rent allowance even if they have houses of their own, and whether there is any rule that they should be given house-rent allowance even in cases where they have got houses of their own. If there is any such rule, may I know, Sir, whether it differs from place to place, from official to official, and from class to class?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"If the hon. Member will put a separate question to me, I will study the whole set of rules, and answer."

SRI PILLALAMARRI VENKATESWARLU:—"The Hon. Chief Minister stated in his reply that where accommodation was limited, preference was given to married persons. Is it not a fact, Sir, that bachelors are not given accommodation in such houses at all?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"I understand the hon. Member's great sympathy for the constables."

The Kuttipuram bridge.

*258 Q.—SRI P. KUNHI RAMA KIDAV: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the stage at which the construction of the Kuttipuram bridge (Ponnani taluk, Malabar district) stands at present; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to postpone the construction?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI:—"(a) The foundation work has been completed, most of the piers have been completed up to bed block level and the superstructure yet remains to be done. Out of eleven spans of the bridge, one span has already been cast and work in another span is in progress.

"(b) No."

Abolition of the system of maintaining confidential sheets for the N.G.Os.

*259 Q.—SRI G. RAMA RAO: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state whether there is any proposal with the Government to abolish the present system of maintaining confidential and conduct sheets for the non-gazetted officers?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI:—"There is no such proposal under consideration."

SRI G. RAMA RAO:—"In view of the fact that there is every scope for officers to ride rough-shod over their subordinates and to ill-treat them at their whims and fancies, and to mar them if they refuse to do any favour for their own caste-men and favourites at the expense of others, with the help of the system of maintaining